

KIRKSVILLE Daily Express

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WEDNESDAY

MARCH 2, 2022 | \$2

United Way of Northeast Missouri holds annual meeting and awards ceremony

By Marty Bachman
Kirksville Daily Express

The United Way of Northeast Missouri held their annual meeting and awards ceremony on Thursday, Feb. 24, at the Dukum Inn in downtown Kirksville. The second floor of the venue was crowded with local United Way volunteers and their friends and family.

Bertha Thomas, the 2021 board president, opened the ceremonies with a review of the local United Way's past year. Representatives of the 11 United Way local agencies were then recognized and the annual "Most Outstanding United Way Agency" award was given to Community

Opportunities/Sheltered Workshop's manager Arthythe Curtis, was given the Most Outstanding United Way Agency of the Year award by Community Opportunities/Sheltered Workshop Board President Doug Nichting.

Thomas was given a plaque from incoming 2022 President Ted Frushour and special awards were given out to local organizations that supported the Northeast Missouri United Way throughout the past year.

Chade Shorten, the 2022 campaign chairman, and Stephanie McGrew, campaign co-chairman, gave recognition to the 2022 campaign team, presenting special giving awards for Donation in Kind, Retail Employee Giving, Largest Campaign Percentage Increase and the United Way Generosity Award (highest per capital giving).

Lloyd and Kathy Cleaver of Cleaver Dermatology, were recognized for a \$5,000 gift they made to the United Way in 2021.

"It was richly deserved honors," said United Way of Northeast Missouri Executive Director Bill Castles. "These people have volunteers that have worked tirelessly this year to support our United Way of Northeast Missouri. It was a pleasure to recognize them at our ceremony."

As the meeting continued, members of the 2022 United Way Board of Directors were



The total raised in the 2022 Campaign was announced with the unrolling of an eight foot banner that read: "\$162,742 93.2%."

officially sworn into their positions on the board and the total raised in the 2022 Campaign was announced with the unrolling of an eight foot banner that read: "\$162,742 — 93.2%."

"United Way has been in the community since 1955 and we currently provide funding to 11 not-for-profit agencies, most of which are here in Adair County," Castles said. "People find that supporting the United Way — their one gift can help 11 agencies."

Local organizations that benefit from the United Way include:

- The Salvation Army, which provides emergency hotel vouchers, fuel for medical appointments, a food pantry, holiday meal baskets, hot meals, back-to-school supplies, utility payment assistance and rental assistance.
- Community Opportunities, which works to employ individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Hospice of Northeast Missouri, an organization that provides "compassionate, physical, spiritual and emotional end of life care focused on quality of life and comfort.
- Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri, the "pre-eminent leadership development organization for girls."



Opportunities/Sheltered Workshop's manager Arthythe Curtis, was given the Most Outstanding United Way Agency of the Year award by Community Opportunities/Sheltered Workshop Board President Doug Nichting.

- Boy Scouts of America/ Great Rivers Council, which provides scouting programs in the local area that includes the Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts, and Exploring, aiming to develop citizenship training and growth.
- Macon Diversified Industries, which provides employment opportunities to people living with developmental disabilities.

- Adair County Family YMCA, which promotes programs that "create a healthy spirit, mind and body." The YMCA provides youth and adult sports and family programming, childcare, swimming lessons and a place to play and workout.

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Missouri State Representative files the 'Cannabis Freedom Act'

By Press release

Missouri State Representative Ron Hicks (R-St. Charles) filed House Bill 2704, the "Cannabis Freedom Act", an omnibus marijuana legalization bill that legalizes marijuana for adult use, releases all non-violent marijuana offenders, creates a protocol for individuals to expunge prior marijuana offenses and allows individuals on probation or parole to legally use marijuana among other provisions.

The bill creates a tax deduction for those denied marijuana licenses in Missouri's medical marijuana program in the amount of application fees paid to the state, creates a tax deduction for marijuana business operators who can't deduct business expenses from federal taxation, creates protections for banks doing business with legal marijuana businesses, and allows hospitality operators, including bars, restaurants, and lodging establishments to provide legal marijuana consumption spaces.

"The Cannabis Freedom Act is the product of input from many different stakeholders including members of law enforcement and those who have endured incarceration for conduct that society now deems acceptable," Hicks said. "I am particularly grateful for input from Oklahoma State Representative Scott Fetgatter (R-Okmulgee) for his assistance in creating a free market program that is also strictly regulated."

Fetgatter said that because the federal government has not yet ended the prohibition on marijuana, states are in a difficult position. States with strict license caps are burdened by

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The Judicial Redistricting Commission listens Friday to comments during a public hearing on a new state Senate plan. The commissioners are, from left, Mary Sheffield of the Southern District, Thomas Chapman of the Western District, Chair Cynthia Martin of the Western District, Vice Chair Gary Lynch of the Southern District, and Angela Quigless and Michael Gardner, both of the Eastern District. (RUDI KELLER/MISSOURI INDEPENDENT)

Judges must produce Missouri Senate map before candidate filing closes

By Rudi Keller
Missouri Independent

Local election officials want new state Senate district maps as soon as possible, Greene County Clerk Shane Schoeller told the Judicial Redistricting Commission Friday. But when the panel's public hearing was over, no one would say when it must be finished.

Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft's office provided clarity a few hours later —

the maps are due before filing closes on March 29.

The Missouri Constitution gives the judicial commission 90 days after the discharge of the 20-member Senate Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission, which could not agree on a plan before its constitutional deadline.

The citizens commission notified Ashcroft's office on Dec. 23 that it was "unable to meet the constitutional deadline for

the filing of a tentative plan, and final plan, and so does stand discharged."

Counting Dec. 24 as the first day, that makes March 23 the 90th day. Ashcroft's office did not provide a specific date.

"Based from the letter of discharge received from the Senate Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission, dated December 23, 2021, we are confident the Judicial

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KIRKSVILLE CALENDAR: MARCH 2, 2022

Chamber to sponsor virtual candidate forum for city council candidates

The Kirksville Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee will hold a virtual candidate forum for Kirksville City Council candidates on Tuesday, March 15 at 6 p.m. There are nine candidates running for three open seats. The zoom meeting code is 811 5796 8084 Passcode: 164901. This is a free event.

Kirksville Chamber of Commerce annual banquet

The Kirksville Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual banquet and awards ceremony on Friday, March 25 at the Moose Family Center, 2405 E. Illinois Street, in Kirksville. Titled "Celebrating Missouri's Northern Stars", the event will begin at 5 p.m. with a retirement reception for Tourism Director Debi Boughton. Dinner and the awards ceremony will be held between 6-8:30 p.m. There will be a cash bar, awards, fellowship and dinner. RSVP by March 14. Kirksville Young Professionals will present its "5 under 40" winners. Tickets can be purchased online or stop by the chamber, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

'Buy Local' seminars on Wednesday

The "Buy Local" seminars being sponsored by the Kirksville Daily Express, will continue on Wednesday of this week. There is no cost to attend and reservations can be made by calling 660-665-2808.

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Curtain Call annual meeting in April

Curtain Call Theatre Company will be hosting their Annual Meeting on Monday, April 11 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the theatre at 512 W. Elizabeth Street, and is open to the public to come and learn about their plans for upcoming shows and building improvements. Members who have paid their \$10 annual membership dues will also be able to vote on new board members.

Midwest Health & Wellness ribbon cutting

The Kirksville Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Missouri Health & Wellness Dispensary, 215 E. Charles Street, Kirksville.

Annual Knights of Columbus fish fry

The annual Knights of Columbus fish fry in Kirksville is this Friday and continues every Friday through April 8. Menu includes fried cod, French fries, green beans, and dessert, \$8 for adults, \$5 for students with a valid student ID. Get your carry-out dinner between 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Mary Immaculate School Cafeteria, 716 E. Washington Street. Money

raised will go to benefit Lifeline Pregnancy Help Clinic, Special Olympics, and other worthy causes.

Tiny Tykes Soccer and Advanced Program registration is now open

The city of Kirksville's Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting registrations for the Tiny Tykes Soccer and Tiny Tykes Advanced program. Tiny Tykes Soccer is an exciting and engaging four-week program, for children ages 3-6, that teaches soccer using play-based learning. Introductory Tiny Tykes Soccer will be held for children ages 3-5 on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting April 19. Registrants will choose either a 4:30-5:15 p.m. session, or a 5:30-6:15 p.m. session. Tiny Tykes Advanced will be held for children ages 5-6 on Wednesdays. Registrants will choose either a 4:30-5:30 p.m. session, or a 5:30-6:30 p.m. session, when registering online at parks.kirksvillecity.com or in person at the Parks and Recreation office located at the Kirksville Aquatic Center, 801 E. Mill St. Registration is \$40 per participant and each player will receive a Tiny Tykes Soccer t-shirt. All Tiny Tykes Soccer will be held at the Tiny Tykes Soccer Field located next to the Pee Wee Baseball Fields at the North Park Complex, 3000 Novinger St. For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 660-627-1485.

Road to close for culvert replacements on Missouri Route 149 in Macon County

Weather permitting, March 1, MoDOT crews will be performing culvert replacements on Missouri Route 149 in Macon County. The road will be closed from Dogwood Street to Route Z between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. while work is being completed. Motorists will need to use alternate routes for closures during these times. For more information on this and other roadwork in your area, visit www.modot.mo.gov/northeast, or call our customer service number at 1-888 ASK MoDOT (275-6636).

Annual Asphalt Street Program details available online

The city of Kirksville's annual Asphalt Street Program is now online. You can view the annual Asphalt Street Program, as well as information from previous years, on the city website at www.kirksvillecity.com/streetmaintenance. Stay tuned for updates on the Asphalt Street Program as the construction season nears. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 660-627-1291.

Ribbon Cutting at Flat Branch Home Loans

The Kirksville Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon-cutting

ceremony at Flat Branch Home Loans, 110 S. Franklin Street, Suite A on Thursday, March 17 at 10 a.m.

Ribbon Cutting at Bailey's Window Cleaning

The Kirksville Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Bailey's Window Cleaning at 1306 S. Baltimore in Kirksville, at 4 p.m. on April 7.

Adair County Health Department to hold March Covid vaccination clinics

The Adair County Health Department recommends that all county residents ages 5 and older get vaccinated against Covid-19 and all residents ages 16 and older get vaccinated and boosted. No vaccines are 100 percent effective at preventing disease. However, the Covid-19 vaccines are easily accessible, free, and continue to demonstrate that they prevent serious illness, hospitalization, and death. The Health Department will administer Covid-19 vaccines at their clinic located at 1001 S. Jamison Street throughout March. Adult clinics are scheduled from 2 to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Pediatric clinics are scheduled from 3 to 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. Call the Health Department at 660-665-8491 to schedule a vaccine appointment.

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Chade Shorten (right), the 2022 campaign chairman, and Stephanie McGrew (left), campaign co-chairman, gave recognition to the 2022 campaign team, presenting special giving awards for Donation in Kind, Retail Employee Giving, Largest Campaign Percentage Increase and the United Way Generosity Award (highest per capital giving). Director Bill Castles is in the center.



Betha Thomas, 2021 board president, was given a plaque from incoming 2022 President Ted Frushour.

UNITED

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- Adair County 4-H, which supports youth through clubs, camps, contests, conferences, special interest groups, in-school and after school programs and more.
- NEMO Senior Citizen Service, an organization providing home-delivered meals for persons 60 and older as well as those 18-59 that have a disability.
- Heartland RSVP, which engages community members 55 and older, putting their skills and life experiences to use in meeting community needs.
- Kirk-Tran, which aims to provide affordable transportation to residents and visitors to Kirksville.



Lloyd and Kathy Cleaver of Cleaver Dermatology, were recognized for a \$5,000 gift they made to the United Way in 2021.



The 2022 Northeast Missouri United Way board is sworn in.

CANNABIS

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the significant appearance of corruption, which undermines the rule of law. On the other hand, unrestricted free markets cannot exist without federal marijuana reform.

"I am proud to work with Rep. Hicks to share with him the conservative solutions that allow us to protect our free market values and provide a viable framework for legal marijuana at the state level," Fetgatter said.

Missouri State Representative Michael Johnson (D-Kansas City) said, "The Cannabis Freedom Act will put Missouri into the

forefront of the evolving national conversation on ending marijuana prohibition. From the offender release and expungement protocols to the opportunity for our hospitality sector to the potential to give our farmers more options in the market, this proposal is the right thing at the right time for our state."

Christina Thompson of Show Me Canna Freedom said, "The Cannabis Freedom Act represents a true end to marijuana prohibition in Missouri and everyone in the cannabis community needs to rally behind it. Instead of the corrupt monopoly Legal Missouri 2022 is trying to create, The Cannabis Freedom Act provides a

fair, open market that every Missourian can participate in. The cannabis community desperately needs this piece of legislation, and I'm hopeful that our lawmakers will understand just how vital it is that this passes."

New Haven Police Chief Chris Hammann and former Carter County prosecutor Rocky Kingree said in a joint statement: "Law enforcement does not need to be tasked with the thankless job of marijuana prohibition anymore and the Cannabis Freedom Act allows for the reparative justice actions that will continue the work of repairing the relationship and trust between the government and its citizens."

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OBITUARIES

Roberta Mark

Oct. 26, 1934 – Feb. 26, 2022

Roberta Louise Mark, 87 of Kirksville passed away Saturday, February 26, 2022 at Northeast Regional Medical Center.

The daughter of Victor Lee and Elma Louise (Miller) Pryor, she was born October 26, 1934 in Downing, Missouri. On March 15, 1953 in Memphis, Missouri she was united in marriage to Olan Ray Mark and he preceded her in death.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and one daughter, Tina Martin.

Roberta is survived by her son, Terry Mark and wife Brenda of Greentop, MO; her daughter, Marilee Tatman and husband Allen of Jefferson City, MO; four granddaughters, Rachel (Preston) Dwiggin, Raquel (Everett) Hines, Tonya (Andrew) Lear, and Samantha (Vernon) Kalkbrenner; ten great grandchildren, Abigail Dwiggin, Lincoln Dwiggin, Camryn Hines, Lane Hines, Levi Hines, Mason Kalkbrenner, Emery Kalkbrenner, Daxton Kalkbrenner, Jack Lear, and Benjamin Lear; one sister, Carol (Steve) Western of Topeka, IN and two nieces.

Roberta was raised in Downing and graduated from the Downing High School. After her marriage Roberta and Ray lived in Illinois for several years until 1970 when they moved to Lancaster and then to Kirksville in 1987. She volunteered at the hospital for many years.

She was a member of the Faith United Methodist Church and enjoyed her Bible study group and spending time with her family and friends.

Visitation will be from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Thursday, March 3, 2022 with funeral service at 2:00 p.m. at Davis-Playle-Hudson-Rimer Funeral Home. Burial will be in Maple Hills Cemetery.

In Lieu of flower memorials are suggested to Faith United Methodist Church.

Arrangements in the care of Davis-Playle-Hudson-Rimer Funeral Home; www.davisplaylehudsonrimer.com.



Bill LaCore

Feb. 20, 1939 – Feb. 24, 2022

William "Bill" Floyd LaCore, 83 of Melissa, Texas formerly of Kirksville passed away Thursday, February 24, 2022 in McKinney, Texas.

The son of Orville Lester and Hazel Leota (Smith) LaCore, he was born February 20, 1939 in Kirksville, Missouri.

Bill graduated from Kirksville High School in 1957. He married his one and only true love, Darlene McMurtrey on August 3, 1961 in Moberly, Missouri. They moved back to Kirksville where they enjoyed time with family and raised their two children; Bobby and Billie. Bill worked various jobs until he retired from KCOM in 2005. Bill and Darlene moved to Melissa, Texas in 2006. While living in Melissa, Bill enjoyed visiting his son at LaCore Power Sports, fishing, visiting with his favorite neighbor, Alan and sitting on the porch with his dog, Misty. He continued to visit Kirksville and Brashear where his daughter, Billie and grandchildren, Drake and Natasha built their beautiful families. "Uncle Bill" loved his nieces, nephews and their children, He was proud of his family history and everyone enjoyed hearing his stories. Bill's friendly wave as you drove in and out of the property will be missed.

Bill is survived by his wife, Darlene; one son, Bob-Lynn LaCore; one daughter, Billie Joanne LaCore Morris; three grandchildren, Drake Morris and wife Krystal of Kirksville, Natasha Morris and Richard Hatcher of Brashear and Herbie Williams; and four great grandchildren, Isaac, Isaah, Ada, and Wilo.

He was preceded in death by his parent and two brothers, Robert Lester LaCore and James Fiscus.

Funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at Davis-Playle-Hudson-Rimer Funeral Home. Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery in Kirksville.

Arrangements in the care of Davis-Playle-Hudson-Rimer Funeral Home; www.davisplaylehudsonrimer.com.



Icy streets contribute to four fatal crashes

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROLLA, Mo. — Icy streets contributed to four fatal crashes in Missouri as the latest winter created hazardous driving conditions across much of the state, the Missouri State Highway Patrol said.

John Mattingly, 52, of St. Peters, died Thursday afternoon along Interstate 44 near Rolla in Phelps County. His car slid on ice, left the road and hit a guardrail before flipping, the patrol said.

The patrol said 18-year-old Justin Tognozzi, of Ballwin, died early Friday when he lost control of his car on Interstate 70 in Callaway County and hit a semi-trailer truck that had stopped for another crash. It was one of three crashes within minutes of each other on that stretch of interstate that shut down the westbound lanes for several hours.

Also on Thursday, John Forsee, 54, of Ashland, was killed when his car skidded off of U.S. 63 in Boone County, hit a sign, struck a culvert and overturned, the patrol said.

And Catherine Lewis, 74, of Warsaw, died Friday. She was a passenger in a car on Thursday that was going too fast for wet road conditions when it hit a concrete median barrier on Interstate 44 in Franklin County near St. Louis, the patrol said. The driver of the car was seriously injured.

Residents in eastern Missouri awoke Friday to flurries and freezing drizzle, including areas in and around St. Louis.

The National Weather Services said skies were expected to clear and temperatures rise to above freezing later Friday before warming to nearly 50 degrees (10 degree Celsius) on Sunday.

In Your Own Backyard: Kirksville events for March 3-9

By Submitted by Debi Boughton

Debi Boughton, Kirksville Tourism Director, has some suggestions for enjoying time "In Your Own Backyard." For any activities, be sure to follow the CDC guidelines for health and safety. If you have ideas or suggestions email: debi.boughton@visitkirkville.com.

Thursday, March 3

You are invited to an opening reception from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Sue Ross Arts Center, 215 S. Franklin. The new exhibit is called: David Garrison: Seeing the World Through Art. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday 12:00-4:00 p.m. and

Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. For more information call 660-665-0500 or email: kirkvilleart@gmail.com.

Thursday, March 3

The Missouri Department of Conservation invites you to make your Own Hair Jig Fishing Lure from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Missouri Conservation Center, 3500 S. Baltimore. Fishing is a great way to make lasting memories in nature and making your own jig is a great way to customize a fishing lure to a specific type of fish. This workshop focuses on tying hair jigs. Participants should bring reading glasses if they require them, MDC provides equipment and supplies. This

workshop is for those 16 and older and kids ages 10-15 when accompanied by an adult. Registration is required at mdc.mo.gov/events. For more information call 660-785-2420.

Thursday, March 3

Enjoy a Wind Symphony I & Central High School Performance (Truman Band Invitational) at 7:30 p.m. in Baldwin Hall Auditorium. Face masks are required inside buildings on the Truman campus. For more information call 660-785-4417.

Saturday, March 5

Are the kids home for Spring Break? Why not bring them out for a fun after-

noon at the Kirksville Aquatic Center, 801 E Mill. Enjoy the heated indoor pool from 12:00-7:00pm. For information on admission prices and hours of operation, visit kirkvillecity.com/kac.

Wednesday, March 9

Missouri's nickname is "The cave state" because there are more than 7,000 caves. Join the staff of MDC at the Missouri Conservation Center from 1:00-2:00 p.m. to learn about how caves are formed, where to find them, and what animals make their homes in Missouri's caves. Registration is required at mdc.mo.gov/events. For more information call 660-785-2420.

SENATE

Continued from Page A1

Commission will fulfill their duties and provide updated district maps to our office before the last day of candidate filing," read a statement sent by spokesman JoDonn Chaney.

If the commission can agree on a map, and it meets constitutional requirements, the districts will be ready for entry into computer systems that assign voters to particular election districts. They are currently locked until April 19, when certification of the April municipal elections is complete, said Schoeller, president of the Missouri Association of County Clerks and Election Authorities.

Changes can be made until May 24, when preparations must begin to order ballots so absentee voting can begin June 22, he said.

That period, he noted, "is also when we will be responsible for checking initiative petition signatures and canvassing voter registration rolls."

Late maps, he added, "in many counties will severely strain staff capacity."

The uncertainty about the deadline for commission action grew out of the lack of information made public about its work. The six-member commission was appointed Jan. 11 by the Missouri Supreme Court in an order that did not take notice of the discharge letter and directed the members to draw maps for both the House

and Senate if necessary.

The House Independent Citizens Bipartisan Commission completed its map for the 163 House districts.

Because the last day for either citizens commission to file a map was Jan. 25, the lack of clarity made it conceivable that the commission had until sometime in mid- to late April to file its plan.

Asked by a reporter Friday, neither Gary Cain, redistricting project manager for the Office of Administration, nor Judge Cynthia Martin, commission chair, would give the specific date.

Friday's hearing was the commission's first, and perhaps only, public hearing to take testimony on maps. It is also the first time the has met in public. It met without notice to elect Martin of the Western District as chair and Gary Lynch of the Eastern District as vice-chair.

At the start of the meeting, Martin alluded to a need to produce a map quickly but did not mention a deadline.

"We are mindful of important dates for some of you with respect to our work," Martin said. "We can assure you we are doing everything in our power to work deliberately, with dispatch, and yet carefully and in compliance with the law as we undertake the work we have been charged with."

In a statement released through Supreme Court spokeswoman Beth Riggert, the commission acknowledged it has a hard deadline to meet but did not name the specific date.

"The judicial commission is aware it has an outside date for completing its work pursuant to the Missouri Constitution, but it also is well aware of the practical implications of not completing its work before statutory deadlines," the statement read. "The judicial commission will make every effort to complete its work deliberately, thoughtfully and with respect for those practical implications."

A March 23 deadline would give candidates about six days to determine if they are qualified to run in the district already chosen or must switch, or perhaps even abandon their campaign. Missouri's 34 state senators serve four-year terms, with 17 districts on the ballot every two years. This year, even-numbered districts will select senators.

Only three other people testified Friday, although the commission has received numerous written comments and map proposals through its web portal.

James Robinson of Unity-StL PAC asked the commission to be careful when drawing districts in the St. Louis area. He offered a map proposal for seven districts that would result in four majority white districts and three majority Black districts.

"Our interest is in making sure minorities are properly represented," Robinson said.

The other comments were from representatives of the League of Women Voters of Missouri, who asked for the com-

mission to draw as many competitive districts as possible. Districts that tilt heavily to one party tend to elect people at the extremes of their parties because that is the electorate that dominates primaries, said Sharon Schneeberger, chair of the league's Fair Redistricting Committee.

"Without competitive districts, elected representatives have little incentive to serve the interests of their constituents," she said.

Of the 17 state Senate districts on this year's ballot, 14 are held by Republicans and three are held by Democrats. Since filing has opened, 31 candidates have filed but no Democrats have filed in the districts held by Republicans and no Republicans have filed in the districts represented by Democrats.

Of the eight Republican incumbents seeking re-election, five have already drawn primary challengers including one, Sen. Lincoln Hough of Springfield, whose opponent is charging he is not conservative enough.

In the written comments to the commission, the 10 Republican members of the citizens commission described its method for protecting minority representation in its final proposal and suggested it be adopted.

"In closing, we do not suggest that the (GOP) map is the only solution," the statement read. "After hours of work, its solution to the St. Louis City/County puzzle and its protection of minority interests

are decisions in which we take some pride."

Democrats currently hold 10 of 34 seats in the Missouri Senate, and the mathematics of voting patterns suggest that is about as well as they are likely to do in the near future, Ari Stern, a math professor at Washington University in St. Louis, wrote to the commission.

Stern wrote that he, along with a team of mathematicians, worked through 100,000 computer-generated alternatives and found that while statewide voting would suggest Democrats should win about 43 percent of Senate seats, the geographic distribution of votes only suggests they would win 29 percent, their current share.

While Democrats and Republicans on the citizens commission submitted versions of the map that meet constitutional requirements, Stern said the Democrats' final proposal is more competitive.

"Overall, (the Democratic map) is by far the best plan at upholding partisan fairness in the terms presented by the constitutional language," Stern wrote.

Sean Nicholson, who led a 2018 initiative campaign that created a new system for drawing legislative districts but saw it reversed by a legislative enactment approved by voters in 2020, wrote to the commission that the best way to draw a map is to do the easy parts first.

He suggested that the judges accept the parts of the citizens commission maps where there was agreement, and then work on the areas where they did not.

"Solve the easy problems first," he wrote, "which then brings the remaining choices into focus."

This article has been updated to include a statement about the deadline for the redistricting commission.

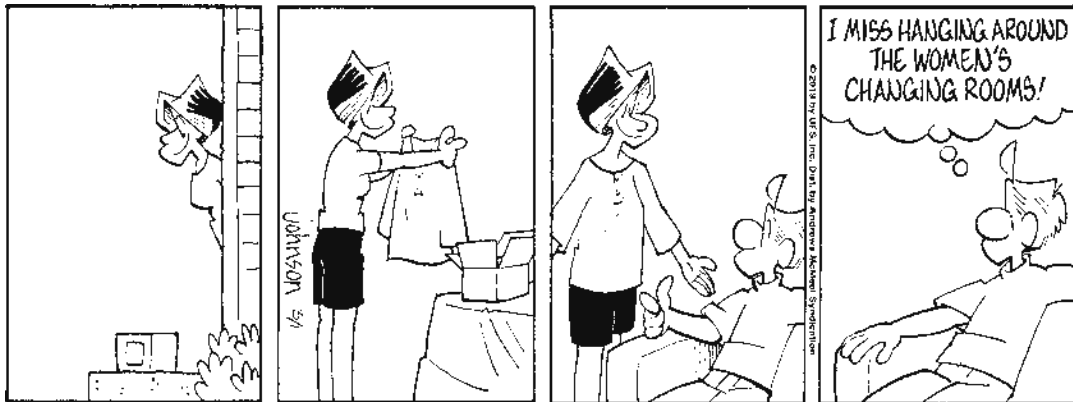
Thank You

The family of Irma Beets Muir wishes to extend their heartfelt thanks to Dr. Melanie Grgurich and the staff of Hospice of Northeast Missouri and LaPlata Nursing Home for their many displays of kindness, professional and sympathetic care during Irma's last few days. A special thank you to all the friends who expressed their sympathy to the family and who hold a special place in our hearts.

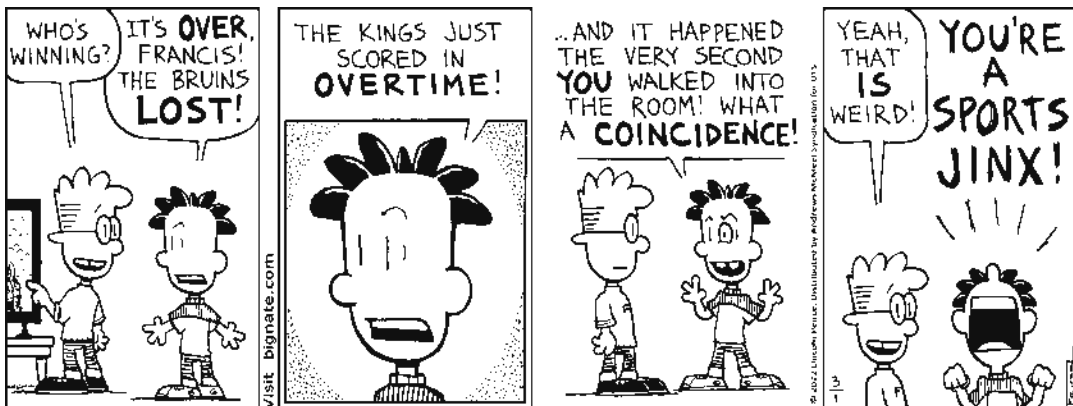
We miss Irma so much.

THE FAMILY OF IRMA BEETS MUIR
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 Mike & Diana Beets
 Jay & Billie Beets

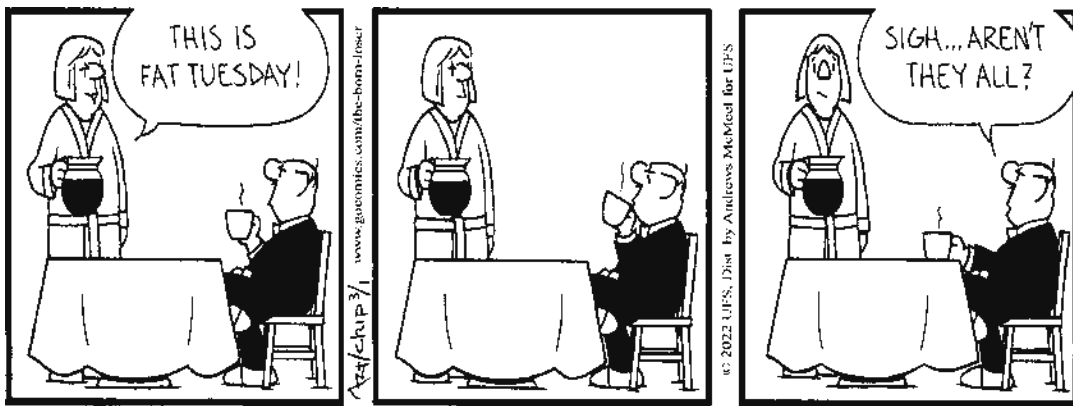
ARLO AND JANIS



BIG NATE



THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



MONTY



THAT A BABY



SUDOKU

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

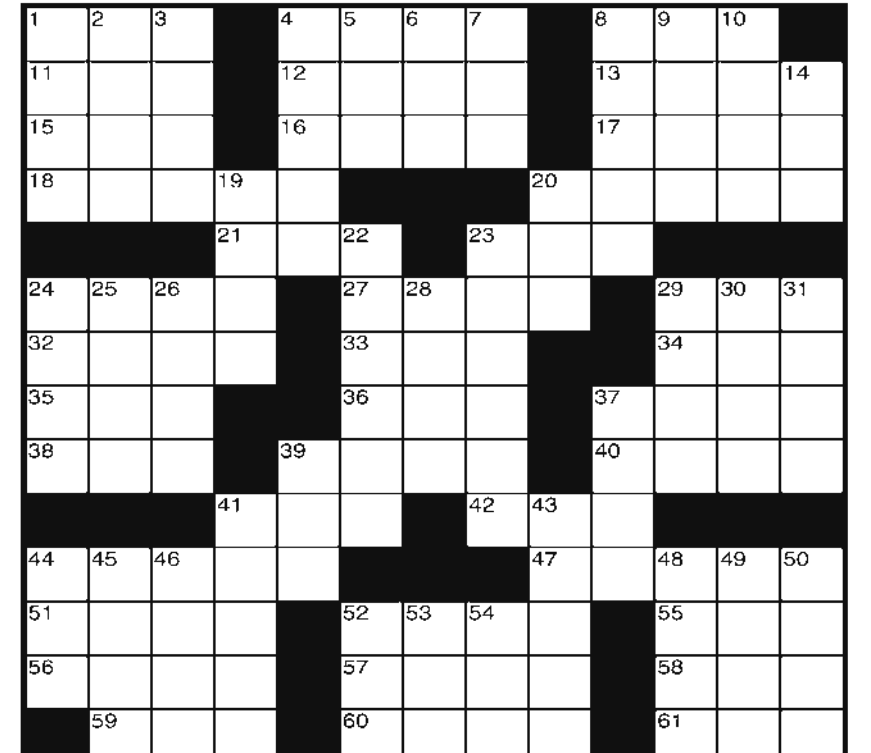
8	3	5		1				2
			7		8			3
			1	9	5	3		
3	7					2		6
6	2		8	3	5		7	1
5			7					9
				3	4	8	7	
			2		7		1	
	8				2		9	6

PREVIOUS ANSWER

4	8	7	6	2	5	1	3	9
9	5	6	7	3	1	8	4	2
1	2	3	8	9	4	5	7	6
2	7	4	9	8	3	6	1	5
6	3	5	2	1	7	9	8	4
8	1	9	5	4	6	7	2	3
7	6	1	4	5	2	3	9	8
3	9	2	1	6	8	4	5	7
5	4	8	3	7	9	2	6	1

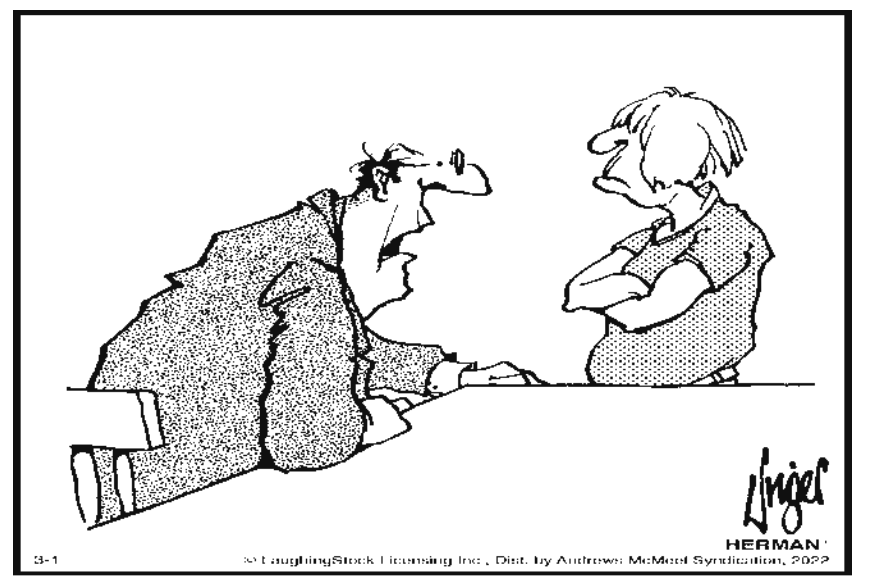
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Canine warning
 - 4 Cuddled
 - 8 Novak of "Vertigo"
 - 11 Inspect
 - 12 Range in Asia
 - 13 Trench
 - 15 Make lace like granny
 - 16 Urchins
 - 17 Off-road vehicles
 - 18 Kind of preview
 - 20 Take hold of
 - 21 Road hazard
 - 23 Burning
 - 24 Racket
 - 27 Baker's need
 - 29 Cook's vessel
 - 32 Mix the salad
 - 33 Pea soup
 - 34 In the past
 - 35 Hilo guitar
 - 36 Common ailment
 - 37 Cable car
 - 38 "Luck" — Lady
 - 39 Overflow with
 - 40 Roll call reply
- DOWN**
- 1 Understands
 - 2 Meg or Nolan
 - 3 Nerve network
 - 4 Japanese verse
 - 5 Horror film street
 - 6 Pool length
 - 7 Put down, slangily
 - 8 Former retail giant
 - 9 Minute amount
 - 10 Dallas hoopsters
 - 14 Cookbook amt.
 - 19 Sofa ends
 - 20 Win at rummy
 - 22 Chewy candy
 - 23 Peanut, for one
 - 24 Pencil end
 - 25 Steelmaker's fuel
 - 26 On a voyage
 - 28 Mouse cousin
 - 29 Cut off
 - 30 Seaweed derivative
 - 31 1899 gold rush town
 - 37 Better late — never
 - 39 Paving material
 - 41 Doctor
 - 43 Compensate
 - 44 Ben & Jerry rival
 - 45 Can't do without
 - 46 Chapeau's place
 - 48 Hollow
 - 49 Akron's home
 - 50 Canine noises
 - 52 Domestic fowl
 - 53 Timetable info
 - 54 "The Challenge" network



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HERMAN



"You're not getting an encyclopedia! You can walk to school like I had to."

ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

Sit on all information you receive until you verify what's coming down the pipeline. Speaking too quickly will lead to conflicts and errors. Listen carefully, follow the dots and focus on performance, presentation and building a strong base. Refuse to let anyone pressure you into anything; time is on your side, so use it to your benefit.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- It's OK to change your mind. When in doubt, don't worry about taking a step back and assessing the situation. Draw on your resources and the people you trust, and you'll find the best path.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Have patience; if you act quickly, mistakes will happen. Keep your plans secret until you can confidently present what you have to offer. Don't expect to win over someone who prefers to run the show.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- A clear head is required when dealing with others. Be a good listener, and you'll come across information that can help you make positive suggestions. An act of kindness will pay off.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Concentrate on what's important to you and refuse to let anyone lure you off course. An adamant approach will deter interference and encourage you to do the best job possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Stick to what you know and do best. Look on the bright side and use your skills innovatively, and you'll come out on top. A partnership will be a learning experience. Romance is favored.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Don't let an outsider mess with your plans. Stick close to those who have your back, and you will outmaneuver anyone who gets in your way. Don't feel pressured by changes made by others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- You have plenty to look forward to, so don't waste time worrying about something you cannot change. Plant your feet firmly on the ground and work to make a difference. Follow your heart.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Mental stimulation will help you stay out of trouble. Seek the facts. Once you have evidence to substantiate your beliefs, you can move forward. Don't trust hearsay.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- How you go about putting changes in play will affect the outcome. Don't make guesses when your success depends on accuracy, know-how and skill. Romance is in the stars.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Live and learn. Listen carefully and refuse to let your emotions get in the way of a good decision. Don't believe everything you hear. An exaggerated statement will prove costly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Reorganize how you handle money matters and how you approach work and living conditions. A positive change will make a massive difference to your mood and conduct. Romance is on the rise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Don't feel obligated to respond or change because of what someone decides to do; focus on what's important to you and move along. Trust your instincts, not what others try to lead you to believe.

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ARLO AND JANIS



BIG NATE



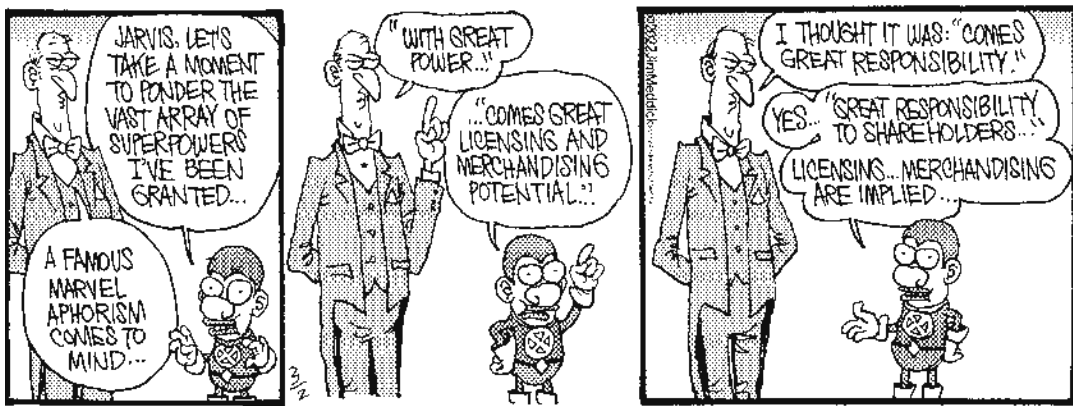
THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



MONTY



THAT A BABY



SUDOKU

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

	4	5	6	8	7			3
9	8		2	3				
			5	4		2		
		1		9				
4				2				6
				6		3		
		2		7	4			
				5	2		8	1
3		8	1	6	9	4		

PREVIOUS ANSWER

8	3	5	4	1	7	6	2	9
9	4	7	2	8	6	3	1	5
2	6	1	9	5	3	8	4	7
3	7	4	1	9	2	5	8	6
6	2	9	8	3	5	4	7	1
5	1	8	7	6	4	2	9	3
1	9	6	3	4	8	7	5	2
4	5	2	6	7	9	1	3	8
7	8	3	5	2	1	9	6	4

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Former NBA superstar
 - 5 Murky
 - 8 Poet's contraction
 - 11 Amazon source
 - 12 Sorrows
 - 14 Noon on a sundial
 - 15 Girlfriend in Cannes
 - 16 Reunion attendee
 - 17 Visa and passport
 - 18 Outlass kin
 - 20 Port in Scotland
 - 22 Santa's little helper
 - 23 Fawn or doe
 - 24 By surprise
 - 27 Tall flower
 - 29 Mattress extra
 - 30 Kids' wheels
 - 34 Actor Clint
 - 37 Spike or Ang
 - 38 Cut, as a log
 - 39 Switch-blade
- DOWN**
- 1 Health resort
 - 2 Dress bottoms
 - 3 Diva's solo
 - 4 Canada's oldest city
 - 5 Snow White's companion
 - 6 Chit
 - 7 Darn
 - 8 Nitrous — (laughing gas)
- 41 Comes unzipped**
- 43 "Give — — break"**
- 44 Boggy**
- 46 Unrisen (2 wds.)**
- 49 Metal source**
- 50 Cartoon shrieks**
- 52 Dressmaker's cut**
- 54 CEO degree**
- 55 Tart plum**
- 56 Kramer or Estrada**
- 57 Abba hit**
- 58 Golfer's benchmark**
- 59 — Arnaz**

Answer to Previous Puzzle

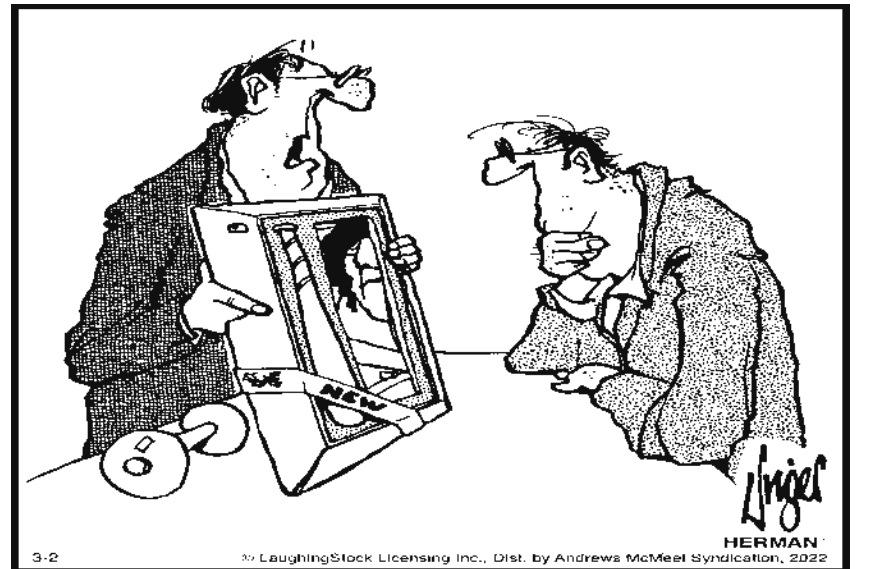
G	R	R		H	E	L	D		K	I	M
E	Y	E		A	L	A	I		M	O	A
T	A	T		I	M	P	S		A	T	V
S	N	E	A	K					G	R	A
				R	U	T			L	I	T
S	C	A	M		O	V	E	N		P	A
T	O	S	S		F	O	G			A	G
U	K	E			F	L	U		T	R	A
B	E	A			T	E	E	M		H	E
				M	A	E			E	R	A
E	N	T	E	R					E	N	V
D	E	E			H	E	M	P		A	H
Y	E	T	I		E	T	T	A		L	I
D	E	C			N	A	V	Y		E	O

- 9 Type of duck
- 10 Hilltop
- 13 Artist's rental
- 19 Yellow-stone sight
- 21 Plover's dwelling
- 24 Simian
- 25 Meadow murmur
- 26 Magazine fillers
- 27 Click-on item
- 28 Dowser's tool
- 30 Scatter seeds
- 31 Yale alumnus
- 32 Sports "zebra"
- 33 Get an eyeful
- 35 Recipe qtys.
- 36 Erodes
- 39 Barbie's beau
- 40 Took into custody
- 41 Greta of old movies
- 42 Fields
- 43 Penny pincher
- 44 Female parents
- 45 Canine cry
- 47 Dublin's land
- 48 Lectern's place
- 51 Camp-ground initials
- 53 Kind of jump

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	
11					12			13		14		
15					16					17		
	18			19			20		21			
				22				23				
24	25	26				27	28					
29					30				31	32	33	
34			35	36						37		
			38					39	40			
	41	42					43					
44					45		46		47	48		
49					50		51			52		53
54					55				56			
57						58				59		

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HERMAN



"This is the latest exerciser. It's an inflatable mother-in-law and a baseball bat!"

ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

It's OK to dream big. Put your energy to good use. Be open to suggestions and willing to call in experts when necessary. Plan your course and pursue your goals. The only regret you'll have is not following through with your plans. Thoughts followed by actions will help you accomplish something that makes you proud. Strive to honor the promises you make to yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Take what others say in stride. Proceed with passion and use the power of persuasion to make changes that will help you seize the moment and achieve what you set out to do.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Use your power of persuasion to your advantage. Preparation, accuracy and compromise will help you get your way. Don't take a risk regarding your health, position or reputation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- You will be hitting home runs today. Physical action will be key to your success. Step up and do your best. A material change will lift your spirits. Dig in and work hard.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Be reasonable and expect the same from others. Don't be afraid to do your own thing and let others do as they please. Being true to yourself may not be easy, but it is necessary if you want to get ahead.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Put what you know to good use. You will drum up interest in what you are doing. Set high goals, come up with unique ideas and plans, and seek out people who have something to contribute.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Keep life simple, your plans doable and disruptive people at a distance.

By keeping the peace and executing your projects strategically, you will overcome any obstacle you face along the way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- You'll be drawn to innovative ideas and people who offer different perspectives. Get moving, and you'll accomplish what you set out to do. Networking events will help drum up support.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Use intelligence if you want to get things done. Problems with someone you deal with will leave you in an awkward position if you can't come to terms. Give others the same freedom you want in return.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- You won't have to stand alone if you do your part. Words won't matter if you don't follow through. You can take a unique approach and achieve excellent results. Make change work for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Stick to your plan, regardless of what others pursue. A steady pace and a well-thought-out strategy will pay off. Discipline and understanding will get you where you want to go.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Make a couple of minor adjustments to how you do things, and you'll have everything you want. Be adventurous and share your thoughts and feelings with a loved one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Sit tight and work on presentation and promotion. You'll know when you are ready to launch your project, but keep improving and updating it until that time. Too much too fast will be your downfall.

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DEADLINES: Classifieds: 2 Days prior at noon Display: Friday noon for Wednesday and Wednesday noon for Saturday.

AGRI-BUSINESS

Equipment & Supplies

WANTED TO BUY: Farm Machinery and Estates. Call James L. Johnston. 573-473-4904

Hay/Feed/Seed

43 round bales of mixed grass hay; 34 round bales of alfalfa mixed bales. Hay is lab tested and surface wrapped, 1300 lbs bales, Small square bales 2nd cutting. Watson hay sales 660-341-4031

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Pasture and hay ground needed around Adair and Knox County. Please Contact 660-216-5887 or 417-773-2507

MERCHANDISE

Miscellaneous

Olhausen pool table, lightly used. Cherry finish, pocket regulation. Needs felt and put together. \$1800.00, Centerville. 641-895-5223.

Pets & Supplies

AKC Labrador Retriever puppies, all yellow. DOB 10-27-2021. Up to date puppy shots and wormers; vet checked. Lay's Labs-LaBelle, MO 660-956-2482

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WANTED TO BUY: Harley Davidson's, any year, any condition, cash money. Days 660-263-1356 or 660-537-0068

Wanted

WANTED TO BUY: Harley Davidson's, any year, any condition, cash money. Days 660-263-1356 or 660-537-0068

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SCOTT HUSKEY'S HOME SERVICE R-10 Foundation Enclosure Systems for manufactured, modular, & site built homes. Saves on utilities and prevents freeze ups. General maintenance and repairs since 1972 573-696-3468 "GO DAWGS"

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Stream and Wetland Mitigation Services

The North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission is investigating procuring specialty mitigation services to partially offset adverse wetland and stream impacts for East Locust Creek Reservoir. Proposals should be submitted in writing or electronically to Greg Pitchford at Allstate Consultants, LLC no later than 5:00 P.M. CST on March 9, 2022. A detailed proposal packet is available by sending a request to: gpitchford@allstateconsultants.net

Contract Technician - Kirksville, MO



The Missouri Department of Conservation supports a family culture focused on diversity of thought, where all employees openly share ideas and turn their passion into purpose. The Missouri Department of Conservation seeks to recruit a **Business Contract Technician** to coordinate contract development, administration, and procurement, including developing bid packets and making award recommendations. Performs QA reviews on all phases of contracts. Serves as the primary contact for stakeholders regarding the contract process. To learn more about the position available, please feel free to contact the hiring supervisor Dee Thomas at 660.785.2420 ext. 6502 or dee.thomas@mdc.mo.gov

Salary: \$41,664.00 - \$52,008.00
Closing Date: March 6, 2022

Apply at: <https://jobs.mdc.mo.gov/go/View-All-Job-Opportunities/4412600/> or <https://jobs.mdc.mo.gov/job/Cape-Girardeau-Contract-Technician-MO-63701/841195300/>

The Department of Conservation will only hire United States citizens and aliens authorized to work in the United States. All new employees will be required to complete an "Employment Eligibility Verification" (Form I-9) and produce requested documentation after employment. Candidates seeking initial employment or re-employment must submit to a drug screen following offer of employment.

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REGISTER TO VOTE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022 is the **LAST DAY** for residents in Adair County to register to vote for the **MUNICIPAL ELECTION** held on **Tuesday, APRIL 5, 2022**. If you are 17 ½, you may register and then vote after becoming 18. A valid form of identification, such as a Driver's License, is needed to register.

It is very important if you are already registered in Adair County that you notify the County Clerk's Office if you have had a **change of address or name change**. These updates must be completed in writing. Please come by or call the office at (660)665-3350 between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday. We are temporarily located at 311 N. Elson St. in Kirksville.

REGISTER - YOUR VOTE DOES COUNT
Sandy Collop, ADAIR COUNTY CLERK

642469cb

IN THE 2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: PROBATE
Case Number: 22AR-PR00023
In the Estate of CHARLES BRIDIS, Deceased.

Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted
(Independent Administration - Non-Resident Fiduciary)
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of CHARLES BRIDIS, Decedent:

On February 15, 2022, the last will of the decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of CHARLES BRIDIS, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri. The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court. The name and address of personal representative is:

Dawn D. Marks, 973 Mandalay Avenue, Clearwater Beach, FL 33767.

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:

Brent J Mayberry, 401 N Elson, Kirksville, MO 63501-2820, 660-665-8356.

The non-resident personal representative's designated agent's name, business address is:

Brian Noe, 1008 W. Potter Avenue, Kirksville, MO 63501.

All creditors of said decedent are notified to file claims in court within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or if a copy of this notice was mailed to, or served upon, such creditor by the personal representative, then within two months from the date it was mailed or served, whichever is later, or be forever barred to the fullest extent permissible by law. Such six-month period and such two-month period do not extend the limitation period that would bar claims one year after the decedent's death, as provided in Section 473.444, RSMo, or any other applicable limitation periods. Nothing in Section 473.033, RSMo, shall be construed to bar any action against a decedent's liability insurance carrier through a defendant ad litem pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo.

Date of the decedent's death: December 4, 2021
Date of first publication: February 23, 2022

Linda Decker
Adair County Circuit Clerk

Receipt of this notice by mail should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient necessarily has a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, can be determined from the files and records of this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.



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- March 19** - Downtown Sedalia St. Patrick's Day Parade/Pub Crawl
- April 2** - Home & Garden Show on the Missouri State Fairgrounds
- April 2** - CASA 5K Poker Fun Run and Art Exhibit
- April 2** - NoBro Art Walk - Downtown Sedalia
- April 28 - May 8** - Legally Blonde at the Hayden Liberty Center
- June 1-4** - Scott Joplin Festival



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Putnam boys use huge first quarter to win first district title since 2010

By Austin Miller
Daily Express

Kyle Fleshman called his shot back in 2004. At that time, he was a senior at Putnam County, fresh off helping guide the Midgets to their first district basketball title in three decades.

Before graduation, he wrote down his two main career goals: Return to Putnam County to teach math and coach the Midgets to another district title.

The first step was the easier one. But with Saturday's 62-40 win over Knox County in the Class 2 District 6 title game, Fleshman finished off a big part of his career.

"I've got all my life dreams. I can quit now," Fleshman said, sarcastically.

Back in his senior year, he didn't expect the program to have to wait as long as it did for another title. Putnam followed with a district title in 2010, but that was the last one before now.

"You never know how many tries you'll have at a district shot. You make it there — you want to make sure it counts," Fleshman said. "It definitely feels great to win that one."

Though there's more to a basketball game than the first eight minutes, the first quarter was the story of Saturday's game.

The Midgets raced out to an 11-0 start, which isn't too surprising with the athletes and scor-

ers they have. What was surprising was that run doubled before the first quarter ended.

Putnam led 22-0 after the first quarter, getting out to a lead that's mighty tough for any team to climb over. The deuces were wild Saturday as that run helped Putnam (22-2) get its 22nd win of the season.

"A team like that, you can't spot 22 at the beginning of the game," said Knox (15-11) coach Nathan Miller. "We fought uphill the entire game and naturally enough, we lost by 22. So, obviously, that first quarter made a big difference for us."

Putnam wanted to limit Knox County forwards Nelson Shinkle and Jacob Becker, and the Midgets have the size and athleticism to guard those big boys. The Midgets also put a ton of pressure on Knox's backcourt to limit passes or drives inside. Putnam clogged every lane and forced Knox into bad shots from outside, or poked balls away and scored in transition off of turnovers.

"That was incredible. That was almost unheard of," said Putnam's Lance Fowler of the first quarter. "Coach (Fleshman) came in at halftime and said, 'I can't really say anything bad about the first half. Probably the best quarter of basketball that I've ever seen.'"

"Defense stepped up tremendously. We shut down their inside looks



The Putnam County boys basketball team celebrates its district championship after defeating Knox County 62-40 on Saturday, Feb. 26. AUSTIN MILLER/DAILY EXPRESS

and made them force bad shots outside. Our defense was a huge part tonight."

Fleshman and the Midgets expected a counterpunch and got it. The following three quarters were even, so the Eagles never bailed after the bad start.

"This time of year, every team is going to go on runs. I know after that first quarter and 22-0, I knew it was far from over," Fleshman said. "Every team you play at this point, they're good teams and not just going to 30-point too many teams at this level, so we knew they were going to have a comeback and we were able to withstand it."

Putnam's two biggest strengths are its huge number of seniors and the many contributors on the floor. Six seniors make up the bulk of Putnam's lineup, but they can go almost 10-deep on a given night. Nine different Midgets scored on Saturday. Zach Heidenwith led with 15, with Lance Fowler and Owen Ream adding nine apiece.

Having that many scorers is tough for most teams to stop. And having all of that experience and time on the floor together is key for this squad.

"We've worked together our whole lives, since we

were in third and fourth grade. I'd say that's a big part of our game, having all of those seniors," said forward Landon Wood.

"Brotherhood. We knew where each other are at before we even do anything," Fowler said. "It's huge playing with each other as long as we have. We have such good friendship with each other and it plays a big part in what we do."

Putnam will play Clifton (18-10) on March 2 at Hannibal for sectionals, with tipoff set for 7:45 p.m.

For Knox, Saturday was the end of a great second-half run for the Eagles after a slow and injury-riddled start. The Eagles had a six-game win streak just before districts to get back over .500.

Saturday might not be the result Miller wanted, but taking over his alma mater and playing for a district title in the first year sets a good bar of where expectations should be moving forward.

"These kids buy-in. We've got a good culture going on right now," Miller said. "Those seniors set a good example for what expectations are for the leaders and what we want out of the program as well. This being the first year, I'm excited but I'm not content."

Truman basketball teams survive and advance to start GLVC Tournament

By Austin Miller
Daily Express

It wasn't March just yet, but the madness had begun.

Both Truman basketball teams opened the GLVC Tournament with first-round home games on Monday night. And both teams live to see another day after wins on their home floor.

The women's team, seeded fourth, started the night with a 67-62 win over rival Quincy, the Bulldogs' third win over the Hawks this season. Truman needed a big fourth quarter to stave off the hot-shooting Hawks, who were seeded 13th in the tournament.

Ellie Weltha hit several big 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, finishing with 20 points and 11 rebounds. Hannah Belanger and Katey Klucking also hit some big outside shots, each finishing with 16 and 11 points, respectively.

The Bulldogs need to keep winning to continue playing. Following a 10-game win streak across December and January, the Truman women went 3-4 in February before Monday's result on the final day. They haven't appeared in the regional rankings, so a lengthy GLVC Tournament push — and likely a tournament title — are needed if the Bulldogs want to make the NCAA Tournament for the second straight year.

"We all know we didn't play our best for this entire month," said Truman women's coach Theo Dean. "We didn't win two games in a row, but we lost two games in a row. Every game was win, loss, win, loss. Now, you have to string wins together. That's the only way to keep playing. I think they understood the assignment and understood that moment, and came out with a lot of energy. That's one thing we lacked in February and I thought we had it today and will need it on Friday."

The men's team entered Monday's game against Rockhurst with motivation of their own. The Bulldogs, the No. 3 seed, lost last Saturday at Rockhurst, laying an egg in the second half after leading by 13 at the break.

So as the Bulldogs led by 11 at half on Monday, coach Jeff Horner's half-time message was simple. Don't do that again.

There was no repeat dud as the Bulldogs buried Rockhurst in the second half for an 88-62 win.

"People talk about revenge or whatever, but I didn't really say anything before the game," Horner said. "I said that I don't think anything really needs to be said. We just need to go out and play, play with a lot of energy and intensity, and I think we did that."

Masen Miller turned around a bit of a scoring funk with a 20-point night, going 4-for-11 from outside. Elijah Hazekamp scored 18 points and grabbed nine boards. And forwards Cade McKnight and Eric Northweather each scored 11 points.

A lot of the energy that Horner liked came from Keaton Mitchell, who had a career night on Monday. He scored 16 points off the bench and went 3-of-4 from outside.

The Bulldogs have several players left from the 2020 team that won the GLVC Tournament, along with most of the lineup from last year's Elite Eight team. The Bulldogs have had more bumps in the road this year than some might have expected. But they're now at the point they've been waiting for — and likely longing for too much.

The Bulldogs may have gotten ahead of themselves at times this year, but now they're back in an environment that they have thrived before.

"We just kind of hit a reset button with it being postseason," said Hazekamp. "I just think we came to practice yesterday with great energy, great focus. Today, everyone seemed to be locked in and excited to be out there playing."

Both teams will resume action in the GLVC Tournament on Friday as the remainder of the tournament moves to Edwardsville, Ill.

The men's team will play No. 6 seed Indianapolis in the quarterfinals on Friday night. Truman won a Feb. 5 meeting with the Greyhounds, 89-73.

And the women's team will play No. 5 seed Lewis. The Bulldogs won two meetings with the Flyers this season.

Scotland girls secure district title three-peat with win over Schuyler

By Austin Miller
Daily Express

The first loss stuck with Scotland County. When the Tigers made it to the Class 2 District 6 title game four years ago against Knox County, the Eagles ran away with a 50-34 win.

For the girls who were freshmen then, they never wanted that feeling again. Saturday's result made sure of it.

With a 47-41 win over Schuyler County on Saturday, Scotland wrapped up a district three-peat. Scotland's five seniors finish with three straight titles after losing in their first appearance.

"Our first time we came here four years ago, we didn't come out on top. As freshmen, we know that feeling of losing a district title," said senior guard Hannah Feeney. "But three years in a row (after that), pretty high of a moment."

Any meeting between Scotland (23-3) and Schuyler (23-4) will likely come down to the wire. These teams play so frequently and know each other so well that every clash is a grueling chess match. But it didn't look that way early on.

Cory Shultz's Scotland teams pride themselves on playing good press defense. It is just the expectation. The Tigers had as good of a first half in that area as one could imagine.

"I think it's just that dedication," said Scotland senior forward Alayna Whitaker. "We put a lot of work in at practice and condition a lot to be able to be up in their grill and stop them on defense."

Schuyler never had any rhythm on offense, either



The Scotland County girls basketball team celebrates a district title win after beating Schuyler County 47-41 on Saturday, Feb. 26. AUSTIN MILLER/DAILY EXPRESS

turning the ball over or missing shots. The Rams also had a tough night from the free-throw line, going 10-for-23.

Scotland led Schuyler 11-4 after the first quarter, with the Rams having just one field goal in the frame. The Tigers pulled away in the second quarter with the same formula, leading 27-10.

"It was a very smothering defense," said Schuyler coach Tom Kirkland. "It was a physical game and our kids just weren't ready for it in the beginning. They had to just settle down. It's a big-game atmosphere and some kids need to step up. We had three seniors get a lot of playing time, so I expected them to handle that challenge. The physicality just got to us early. We needed to regroup at half-time and I thought we did a good job of that."

Kirkland's message was to relax and just be themselves again. That resonated and the Rams looked more like themselves to start the third quarter. Schuyler started on a 7-0 run to get the deficit down to 10.

Then Schuyler forward Kait Hatfield started to heat up. After just two points

in the first half, Hatfield erupted for 16 in the second. She settled in, stopped overthinking, and grew confident after sinking some shots. But every time Schuyler made another run to get within five or six, Scotland always answered.

Shultz took a timeout with a few minutes left in the third, as Schuyler got back within eight points. He was frustrated and let it be known. But that direct approach works with his Tigers, and he felt that got them ready to finish the job in the fourth quarter.

"They know when I'm yelling that it's serious. I think they do a good job of getting re-checked back in after getting serious," Shultz said.

"Shultz called a timeout and got in our faces a little bit, but he knows that works for us, so we came in with our heads back in the game," said Feeney, who scored 12 points.

Feeney quieted a Schuyler run with an acrobatic and-one, putting Scotland ahead 38-29. Free throws from Paige Bishop, who led the Tigers with 15 off the bench, put Scotland up 10 with four minutes left. That pretty much sealed the deal.

Scotland has all the big-game experience a coach could want and the Tigers showed how key that is in the final quarter.

"Hannah Fenney's made big free throw after big free throw after big free throw. Aayla Humphrey stepped up, same thing," Shultz said. "This crowd in here is amazing every year. When they're chanting or doing whatever they're doing while you're shooting a free throw, (we've) been there and done that."

Scotland will play Cairo (24-5) on March 2 in Hannibal. That game is set to start at 6 p.m. The Tigers won a previous meeting on Jan. 21, 65-50.

For Schuyler, Saturday is the third straight season its rivals to the north have ended its season. The Tigers bested them in last year's title game as well.

The Rams had as good of a season possible, just missing out on the highlight finish. The program remains without a district title since 1999. Kirkland hopes his group continues to learn from the tough mistakes to capitalize down the line.

"It's just building mental toughness in kids. I really think that's a factor," Kirkland said. "We had some situations that were self-inflicted wounds. ... Girls, once they build the self-confidence, anything can happen. Scotland came in here last year as the two seed, knocked us off and got confident. They've been in more district titles than we have. They expect it from year to year. Our kids are starting to expect that, and I think we matched that intensity. Maybe not all 32 minutes, but we sure did for the last 16."

Scotland's Feeney picked as Lewis & Clark Conference's Girls Player of the Year

By Daily Express staff

Some prominent Tigers got another award Monday to coincide with a district title from the weekend.

Scotland County senior Hannah Feeney was announced as the Lewis & Clark Conference's Player of the Year for its 2021-22 all-conference girls team. And Scotland coach Cory Shultz was the conference's Coach of the Year on the girls side.

The Tigers went 7-1 in the conference and have the lead. But Schuyler County will make up a game with Fayette, so the Tigers and Rams might end up with a split of the conference crown.

Joining Feeney's as first-team all-conference honorees are fellow teammate Alayna Whitaker, as well as Schuyler's Jacie Morris and Kait Hatfield.

Schuyler's MaKinley Aeschliman and Knox County's Brianna Miller were second team picks. And Scotland's Emiley Dial was a third team selection.

Over on the boys team, Knox's Nelson Shinkle was a first team choice.

Schuyler's Kale Windy and Scotland's Kabe Hamlin were second team picks. And Knox's Jacob Becker and Schuyler's Trevyn Small were third team selections.

Second-half rally not enough for La Plata girls in title game against Marion County

By Austin Miller
Daily Express

His tie was bad luck, but shedding it wasn't the ultimate fix.

La Plata girls basketball coach Nathan Simler left his tie in the locker room after halftime of Friday's Class 1 District 11 title game against Marion County. The Bulldogs trailed by 10 at that point and Simler felt the change was necessary.

La Plata organized a much stronger second half, with the game tied entering the fourth quarter. But Marion County pulled ahead late for a 53-48 win.

"They came out and they played extremely well. Marion County's a great team. We came out and were just a bit flat in the first (half), but I'm very proud of my girls and what they accomplished this season," Simler said. "There's no reason to hang the head right now."

The Mustangs (18-5) pounded corner 3-pointers in the first quarter to go up early. And their



La Plata's Brooklyn Carvajal puts up a shot during a girls district title game against Marion County on Feb. 25, 2022. AUSTIN MILLER/DAILY EXPRESS

defense had La Plata (18-9) all out of sorts in the second quarter.

But after Simler's wardrobe change at halftime, the Bulldogs looked more like themselves. They pounded the inside with Claire Coy, who finished with 16 points. And they got outside shots to fall from Brooklyn and Paige Carvajal. In their home gym, La Plata had all the

momentum going to the fourth quarter tied at 38. "Offensively, I really liked that — when we attacked the rim in the first half, we never got any bounces. We never got any layups to bounce in for us," Simler said. "In the second half, we did a much better job of concentrating and finishing those layups."

Brooklyn Carvajal hit a

3 with four minutes left, putting the Bulldogs up 46-44. Marion County answered and the game was tied at 48 with 2:08 to go.

After a few lengthy possession, Delaney Straus hit the go-ahead bucket to put the Mustangs up with 1:15 to go. Straus finished the a game-high 28 points, scoring 19 in the first half. Halle Keilholtz added 24 more for the Mustangs.

Simler took a timeout with 24.7 seconds left and the Bulldogs down 51-48. Brooklyn Carvajal, who also finished with 16 points, got a clean look from 3-point land but her shot just missed, ending La Plata's chance for district gold. La Plata's last district title came in 2001.

La Plata put together a strong finish to the 2021-22 season, winning seven straight heading into Friday night. They found a groove and made to a district title game as a three seed. Losing three seniors (Brooklyn Carvajal, Olivia Coy and Pieper Wood) will be tough, but the Bulldogs bring a lot back next year. And Simler is excited for some new girls to step into the program, too.

"I hope we stoked some fire for them a bit, make them want to get back to this stage they had here tonight," Simler said. "I think they will. We return a lot of key players, and will bring in a lot of players next year who will be very valuable for us. I think we can be just as strong next year."

Atlanta boys fall to tough North Shelby defense in district title game

By Austin Miller
Daily Express

Just too many mistakes Friday for the Atlanta boys basketball team.

The Hornets had a rough go against North Shelby's full-court defense, turning the ball over on too many occasions to walk away with the Class 1 District 11 trophy. With a big-time defensive performance, the Raiders advanced to the state tournament with a 64-57 win over the Hornets.

"Can't turn the ball over that much against a good team like that and expect to come out on top," said Atlanta coach Jason White. "We didn't give up, though. The kids played hard, as always. Missed too many free throws and that's a great team. They have a good shot at being at the Final Four with the way they play defense. We knew this would be a big one for us, sometimes you come up a little short."

North Shelby (19-6) didn't throw a lot of on-ball pressure at the Hornets (21-5). The Raiders sat in the right spots, clogging passing lanes and disrupting when Atlanta made a move. Atlanta had chances to push the floor and play more in transition to break that press, but the Hornets then rushed themselves and coughed the ball right back.

North Shelby also did a great of defending Atlanta center Roman Phillips, playing physically against him and holding the big man to eight points.

Plenty of credit goes to the Raiders for a great gameplan and execution, but the Hornets also stung themselves quite frequently.

"Sometimes it seemed like we weren't pushing it hard enough, but then when we did, it seemed like we turned it over," White said.

North Shelby led by double digits for most of the way before Atlanta made its run in the third quarter. Atlanta outscored North Shelby 18-12 in the third quarter, starting the fourth within six. But that would be as close as the Hornets could get.

The Raiders answered just about every bucket the Hornets got. Landon Gilliland, who finished with 17 points, hit a 3-pointer with 1:33 left, making it a 62-57 ballgame. On North Shelby's next possession, the Hornets were dialed in to force a turnover. With three fouls in their back pocket, they had all of the incentive to be aggressive. But North Shelby kept control, eating a huge chunk of time off the clock to seal the win.

In his last game as a Hornet, Jason Viers led the way with 20 points. He had a great start, scoring 10 of Atlanta's 14 points in

the first quarter.

"He's a senior, he's a leader, he's a kid who always comes and plays hard," White said. "He's got a lot of heart and wears it on his sleeve. He's always poised for a situation like this, to step where you need him, and he did it. Just ran out of time tonight."

Though the loss hurts, the Hornets have plenty to be happy with this season. In White's third season, the program continues to have an upward trajectory.

When he took over for the 2019-20 season, he inherited a team that went 2-15 the year prior. The program had 17 combined wins in the five years before White came over from Linn County.

The program does await its first district title since 1998, but that wait shouldn't go on much longer. Now the Hornets have a bunch of guys who know what it takes to get to a title game. And they know they don't like the feeling of losing one either.

"This was the plan coming in, to be able to turn the program around. The right kids are in place and I felt great — right now I don't feel great because I was planning on holding that other trophy up — but it feels good to turn the program around. You saw the fans here tonight. We had a fantastic crowd here for us, all cheering."



Atlanta's Jason Viers dribbles past a North Shelby defender during a Class 1 district title game on Feb. 25, 2022. AUSTIN MILLER/DAILY EXPRESS

LOCAL ROUNDUP

Feb. 26

High school boys basketball

Class 3 District 16
Milan 47, Marceline 44
Milan — Wins district title.

High school girls basketball

Class 4 District 8
Macon 33, Centralia 31
Macon — No stats reported.

Kirkville 62, Mexico 38
Kirkville — No stats reported.

Feb. 25

High school boys basketball

Class 1 District 14
Green City 63, Grundy Co. 38

Green City — Wins district title; Laydon Fields, 27 points; Grant O'Haver, 11 points.

Class 2 District 6
Knox Co. 55, Canton 48
Knox — Advances to district title game; Jacob Becker, 10 points.

Putnam Co. 70, Princeton 34
Putnam — Advances to district title game; Jaden Wyant, 14 points; Landon Wood, 13 points.

High school girls basketball

Class 3 District 16
Milan 52, Trenton 44
Milan — Wins district title; Cady Pauley, 36 points.



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Milan, Putnam County featured on 2022 All-Grand River Conference basketball teams

By Daily Express staff

To go along with big seasons on the court, the Putnam County and Milan basketball teams were represented well on the All-Grand River Conference Eastern Division teams.

On the girls side, Milan's Cady Pauley was a unanimous first-team selection. Pauley, who crossed 3,000 career points this season, powered the Wildcats to GRC title. Milan's Auburn

Cole was an honorable mention, as was Putnam County's Allise Perkins.

For the boys, Putnam County went 7-0 in its division, falling to Stanberry by one point in overtime in the title game. Landon Wood and Zach Heidenwith were both unanimous first team selections. Owen Ream and Lance Fowler were both second team picks.

Milan's Chekh Niase was a first team pick, Ahmet Niase was a second team pick, and Jeremy

Bennett was an honorable mention.

Both Milan squads and the Putnam boys won district titles this past weekend, battling in sectionals later this week.

The Milan girls will play East Buchanan at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Pershing Arena in Kirksville. The boys will battle Mid-Buchanan in the same building later that night, starting at 7:45 p.m.

Putnam will play Clopton on Wednesday in Hannibal.

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